

# Pre-implementation study on the Fetal Pillow®

Albert  
Schweitzer  
ziekenhuis



Anne S. Nieuwstraten, Dr. S. Rombout-de Weerd  
Gynecology

## CONCLUSION

The risk on a high amount of blood loss during a caesarean section is bigger after a secondary C-section caused by failure to progress in the second stage of labour. **18%** of all women who had a secondary C-section caused by a failure to progress in the second stage of labour suffered from too much blood loss ( $\geq 1000$  ml) during their C-section. The duration of stay in the hospital is not different than usual. Women who had a vacuum extraction prior to the C-section do not have more blood loss or a longer stay in the hospital than women without one. Despite the fact that the Fetal Pillow® is not used yet, it seems to be a useful device for women who are the most at risk during a C-section.

## BACKGROUND

Women who had a secondary C-section caused by a failure to progress in the second stage of labour are at higher risk of losing too much blood during their C-section. The fetal head is more vulnerable because it is already deeper in the birth canal. Because of the failure in the second stage of labour there is a higher risk of tissue vulnerability. The **Fetal Pillow®** is a medical device developed to prevent babies from having head injuries and to prevent tissue damage. Study shows that use of the Fetal Pillow® results in **less blood loss, less trouble during surgery and a shorter stay in the hospital**. Women who had a **vacuum extraction** seem to be at higher risk due to the baby being deeper in the birth canal. The study was meant to determine the amount of blood loss, vacuum extractions and the duration of stay in the hospital.

## METHODS

It was important to get a clear view of which women, women who had a secondary C-section caused by a failure to progress in labour, would be suitable for use of the Fetal Pillow®. This data was obtained by using books that registrate all births of one year. The study was based on 2015 and 2016. Among with these books, patient records were used to obtain data about the amount of blood loss, vacuum extractions and duration of stay in the hospital of these women.

## DISCUSSION

Data of November and December 2016 was missing, therefore results could have been influenced by this missing data. Furthermore, only two years were examined. If more data had been examined, the results could have been more reliable.

## RESULTS 2015

25 secondary C-sections caused by failure to progress in the second stage of labour:

- **20% blood loss during the cesarean section  $\geq 1000$  ml**
- 20% failed vacuum extraction
- No longer stay in hospital

## RESULTS 2016

32 secondary C-sections caused by failure to progress in the second stage of labour:

- **16% blood loss during cesarean section  $\geq 1000$  ml**
- 40% failed vacuum extraction
- No longer stay in hospital

